4. Infrastructure development of rural roads, stabilisation of natural drainage lines and village water supply;

5. Strengthening of land use planning;

6. Training;

7. Improvement of the institutional ability to carry out effective land use planning in watersheds;

8. Introduction of effective institutional arrangements for inter-agency coordination in watershed development;

9. Continuous introduction of innovative and simple low cost replicable technologies on private farm-lands for soil and water conservation and crop production point;

10. Introduction of replicable and productive technological and management systems on all types of public and community lands in the watersheds.

Land Holdings

2635. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers holding less than a hectare of land as at present;

(b) what was their number in 1950-51 or during the First Five Year Plan and also in 1971 and 1981;

(c) the percentage increase in the number of small and marginal farmers; and

(d) whether it has resulted in the increase of farmers engaged in non-profitable farming and if so, by how much?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (c) Data pertaining to the marginal/small operational holdings available from the NSSO Sample Survey (8th Round) and Agricultural Census (1970-71 and 1980-81) along with percentage increase in the marginal and small categories of holdings are enclosed in the statement. (*See* below).

(d) No, Sir. Studies have revealed that modern technology is netutral to scale and that the small and marginal farmers are getting same productivity per unit of area as is being obtained on large farms.

Statement

Estimated number of marginal/small operational holdings

No. of operational holdings ('000)

Category of holdings	1953-54*	1970-71	1980-81	Percentage increase in 1980-81 over 1970-71
Marginal (below 1 hectare)	39898	35,682	50,122	+40.5
Small (1—2 hectares)	8975	13,432	16,072	+19.7

*based on NSSO Sample survey conducted in 8th round : July, 1953-June, 1954.

Area under developed agriculture

2636. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the developed agriculture is limited only to 15 per cent of the land if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the remaining land requires farming techniques on dry land' and if so, what are the techniques developed in this regard and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINIS-

TRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No, Sir. The cultivated area of 142.7 million hectares during the year 1983-84 represents 46.9 per cent of the reporting area for land utilisation statistics. The irrigated area is 29.39 per cent of the net sown area.

(b) To generate improved practices for increasing the productivity of rainfed crops, the ICAR initiated an All India Coordinated Research Project on Dryland Agriculture (AICRPDA) in 1970 with 23 cooperating research centres representing the various agro-climatic regions of the country. The various coordinated crop improvement projects of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have evolved several improved cultivators of dryland crops. The improved production techniques developed by AICRPDA include (i) selection of suitable varieties and crops in relation to the effective growing season, (ii) increasing cropping intensity and reducing risk through intercropping and sequence cropping, (iii) improved soil conservation measures and cultural practices for increasing soil moisture storage (iv) package of improved agronomic practices and (v) alternate land use systems.

The results of a large number of trials on farmers' fields in operational research project, have indicated that the productivity of dryland crops can easily be increased by 100—200 per cent by adopting the improved dry farming practices. Encouraged by these results the Government of India have initiated a National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Agriculture during 1986-87 in 99 districts of 16 States falling in the rainfall range of 500—1125 mm.

Action on recommendation of sub-committee on Agricultural Labour

2637. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 2286 given in Rajya Sabha on the 12th August, 1988 and state:

(a) the responses of the States and Union Territories to the recommendations of a sub-Committee of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Labour; and

(b) the progress made by the National Commission on Rural Labour on each count in the light of the above recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) A conference of States Labour Minister was convened at New Delhi on 7th November, 1988 to discuss *inter alia*, the recommendation of the sub-Committee of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Labour. Members of the Consultative Committee were also invited to attend this conference. The conference made suggestions/recommendations on various aspects of the report. The consensus was in favour of vigorous implementation of the existing laws.

(b) The National Commission on Rural Labour is a high powered Commission. The report of such a Commission generally takes into account all relevant material, including the Report/recommendations of the Committees/Bodies preceding its report. The Commission has not submitted any report.

Outstanding dues against ex. M.Ps and ex-Ministers

2637. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some former Members of the Central Cabinet who have shifted from Delhi are still keeping Govrnment accommodation in their possession; if so, what are their names and since when they are in unauthorised occupation; what action has been initiated to get the accommodations vacated from their possession; also the amount due from each one of them;

(b) what are the names of former Members of Parliament who are still in occupation of Government accommodation in Delhi; also the amount due from each one of them;